

Joseph Reed to Benjamin Church Jr., September 24, 1775, The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799. John C. Fitzpatrick, Editor.

To DOCTOR BENJAMIN CHURCH, JUNIOR

Cambridge, September 24, 1775.

Sir: I am directed by his Excellency the General to acquaint you, that his Unwillingness to part with a good Officer alone prevents his complying with your request in your Letter of the 20th. Inst. He desires you would stay with your Family some Time longer,¹ and if there is then no Prospect of its being in such a Situation as to permit you to return to your Duty, you will receive a Discharge pursuant to your Letter. I am, Sir, etc.²

¹It was during this furlough that Doctor Church wrote his indiscreet cipher letter.

²his letter is signed by Joseph Reed.